

To: Chairperson and Authority Members

Date: September 13, 2002

From: Mehdi Morshed, Executive Director

Subject: Agenda Item 8 — Japan Railway Technical Service (JARTS)

Discussion

In 1964, Japan moved to the forefront of the world's railway technologies with the commencement of Shinkansen (i.e., bullet train) service, which stimulated an endless flow of requests from abroad for technical advice on and assistance for railway construction and improvement in the subsequent years.

The Japan Railway Technical Service (JARTS) was established in September 1965 under the guidance of the Ministry of Transport and the Japanese National Railways (JNR) to provide such advice and assistance. Comprising a team of experts with extensive knowledge of and experience in railway technologies, JARTS is the only government-affiliated organization with exclusive access to the rich technical resources of the Japan Railways (JR) Group (formerly JNR).

Japan Railway Technical Service and Central Japan Railway Company representatives will deliver a presentation on the overall characteristics of the Japanese Shinkansen System and the characteristics of the newest type of Shinkansen rolling stock.